

Abstract

The problem of replication competent adenovirus in virus production is solved in that we have developed packaging cells that have no overlapping sequences with a new basic vector and thus are suited for safe large scale production of recombinant adenoviruses.

One of the additional problems associated with the use of recombinant adenovirus vectors is the host-defense reaction against treatment with adenovirus. Another aspect of the invention involves screening recombinant adenovirus vector lots, especially those intended for clinical use, for the presence of adenovirus E1 sequences, as this will reveal replication competent adenovirus, as well as revertant E1 adenoviruses. It is also an aspect of the present invention to molecularly characterize the revertants that are generated in the newer helper/vector combinations.

N:\2578\3935\3935_pat.wpd 7/19/99